

National Pygmy Goat Association

NPGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Cottonwood, Arizona

June 11-12 2009

Thursday, June 11, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 8:06AM by President Ray Hoyt. Present were Vice President Aaron Esterline, Secretary Michelle Fonda, Treasurer Joyce Hubbard, and Directors Terry Atkins, Fran Bishop, Donna Elkins, Aaron Esterline, Karen Hepner, Pat Kaufmann, Maggie Leman, Andy Nash, Michael O'Kelly, Cheryl Rogers, April Seiler, Linda Shipley, and Business Manager Dori Lowell. Director Kelly Culp was absent.

In addition, there were several NPGA members in attendance.

After some discussion regarding the approval process of the Minutes, the January 2009 Minutes were approved as written.

Officer Reports

President's Report – President Hoyt referred to his report to the Board.

Vice President's Report – Vice President Esterline feels that he has over committed his energies to NPGA and needs to reduce his activities and/or needs help. He commented that due to format changes to the 2009 Membership Roster, significant savings were incurred for NPGA.

Secretary's Report - None.

Treasurer's Report – Following the Convention when most expenditures should have been received, the bank account should be approximately \$21,000.

Central Office Report

The continuing decline in the membership was discussed again. Options for changing the format of membership dues reminders were discussed. In order to save money, it was felt that sending out email reminders would be acceptable even though it may raise 'junk mail' flags for some ISPs. Tammi Josephson will write a short note to members to check their MEMO labels for the status of their respective memberships. This will be incorporated into the Central Office Notes. A large arrow pointing at the label might help bring attention to the membership status.

It was agreed that we all need to be more proactive at shows and other events to promote NPGA and have information available to new people.

Business Manager Lowell reported that the registering of caramel goats under the newly adopted description (January 2009) has not been as simple as was discussed in January. She has been receiving more incorrect caramel color designations on registration papers and feels that the membership requires more education on this topic. In order to facilitate communication between her and members on such issues, it was felt that email would be useful. Therefore, a line will be added to the registration papers for a members' email address. It seems that both the numerous color descriptions and the change in terminology of color of 'points' has caused problems and confusion in the registration process for the membership. The Board recommends making it simpler on registration papers. Chairpersons Struthers and Wortham, and Business Manager Lowell will work out simplified color designations and report back to the Board at this meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports

The Video Committee has been dormant; no report was submitted and therefore will be abolished.

The Wether Committee had no report. They had offered help to Youth committee, but it was not needed. The Committee was abolished.

Standing Committee Reports

Breed Standard

Selection of pictures for the updated Color Chart was discussed. Since we are looking to simplify the color choices, this should be reflected in the new Color Chart.

Two motions regarding the Breed Standard will be addressed under New Business.

The report was received.

Health, Education & Research

The Committee continues to be both reactionary and proactive.

The report was received.

NAIS

Most of the NAIS activity is on a state to state basis. President Hoyt keeps himself updated on the current situation by monitoring several chat groups. NPGA maintains an ambivalent position.

The report was received.

Central Office/Color Simplification Issue Review

Chairpersons Struthers and Wortham, and Business Manager Lowell made the recommendation to reduce the number of color choices to seven as follows: solid black, black, black agouti, grey agouti, brown agouti, grey/brown agouti, and caramel. This will definitely impact the color descriptions for registrations and the color chart. The Breed Standard Committee will make recommendations and present them at the January meeting.

Judges Training

There are seven candidates testing at this convention.

The Committee sent out a questionnaire to all the judges. It was not classified as a test; therefore there were no ramifications if the questions were answered incorrectly. However, it was discussed if this was raising awareness among the judges, if they were even responding to it and what was their perception of it. It seems that most judges found it neutral. Continuing Education requires this questionnaire to be answered and returned. The Board will revisit this subject in January.

Two motions regarding the Judges Training committee will be addressed under New Business.

The report was received.

Public Relations

The Committee has several ideas in the works. It was suggested to make the workbook available on the website for the youth to print out, but they would still need the Basic Owners Manual for answers. An information sheet needs to be generated that addresses those Pygmy Goat owners who do not plan to breed, but want to know what NPGA can provide for them. The copyright of NPGA articles was also discussed.

The report was received.

Publications

The Best of MEMO IV should be complete by June 2010. The Board discussed if it should be offered in CD form (PDF format) as well as the paper version.

The review process by the Committee of both the cover for MEMO and the Regional Reflections was discussed. It was felt that perhaps the summer issue cover should reflect the convention theme or logo for that year. With regards to the Directors' Regional Reflections, there have been occasions when the content of the RR needed to be revised, but in most cases, the committee has allowed for the individual's opinions. The Board discussed if this should be continued when the RR may express some negativity which is not the intent of MEMO in general. In order to address the issue of opinion

expression, it was discussed if the 'Letter to the Editor' feature should be revived. The committee will make that decision. It may require some additional policies generated so that such articles will fall within what is acceptable for MEMO.

The Report was received.

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Webmaster

Director Esterline is unable to continue to perform both jobs of Webmaster and Show Coordinator. Of these two, he prefers the Show Coordinator position. He would like to pursue getting a helper or helpers for pieces of the website.

He has made several upgrades and added a new file. He will continue to update the Herdbook.

The report was received.

Youth

The winner of the caption contest will be announced in the upcoming MEMO. There has been only one applicant for the scholarship program.

Representatives from Regions 3 and 5 are still needed.

The report was received.

Coordinator Reports

Affiliated Clubs

The report was received.

Election

Business Manager Lowell had been the acting interim coordinator. Until a new coordinator is selected, we will use the Snohomish address for all election related mail and communications. Following the selection, all information and mail can be forwarded to the new coordinator. The procedure manual is still in progress and will be reviewed at the January 2010 meeting.

The report was received.

Appoint Coordinator(s) (closed session after lunch)

Show Coordinator

Show Coordinator Esterline reported that the number of shows per year is staying consistent. Many of the shows are incorporating the Master Champion class, so more ribbons will need to be ordered. The color of the Wether ribbons are not as was originally thought, so we may need to reconsider our choices for the next order.

The submitting of class sheets with the sanction application was discussed. It seems that class sheets are changed after sanctioning and prior to the show, making a moot point for the Show Coordinator to receive them in the first place. It was decided that class sheets would no longer be required for sanctioning due in part that the Show Rules specify the class requirements for a show.

Motion #2009-14

Passed

Proposed by: Esterline/Hubbard

I move that Show Rule A.1 be amended as follows:

1. A sanction application shall be sent to the NPGA Show Coordinator.

I move that new Show Rule E.4 be added as follows: "Combined junior/senior doe shows and all buck shows shall include both Junior and Senior Division classes." Existing Show Rules E.4 through E.7 to be renumbered E.5 through E.8 respectively.

Yes: Atkins, Bishop, Elkins, Esterline, Fonda, Hepner, Hubbard, Kaufmann, Leman, Nash, O'Kelly, Rogers, Seiler, Shipley. No: None. Absent: Culp.

The report was received.

Report of Awards

The coordinator wanted to remind all judges to get those ROA's mailed within 10 days after judging a show with all the applicable boxes checked and required signatures.

The report was received.

Department Reports

MEMO Editor

The editor has not received some emails due to computer problems. She encourages the membership to please resubmit your article, etc. if it is not in the most current MEMO. The layout has been changed with youth section now in front of show results. There has been positive feedback to date

The report was received.

Merchandise Department

Due to health issues, Dept. Head Huber is resigning his position. An advertisement will be placed in MEMO and on the website. A new Dept. Head will be selected in January 2010.

The cost of sending the Dept. Head to the conventions each year was discussed. It was decided to eliminate the required attendance and, as an option, send the merchandise for the host committee to sell and retain 10% of the sales.

The following motion addresses the change to the merchandise JD.

Motion #2009-15

Passed

Proposed by: Esterline/Nash

I move that paragraph 10 be removed from the Merchandise Job Description. Further, that paragraph 7.E.4 be removed from the Rules and Regulations.

Merchandise sales at convention may either be coordinated by the Convention Host or as negotiated between the Board of Directors and the Merchandise Department Head.

Yes: Atkins, Bishop, Elkins, Esterline, Fonda, Hepner, Hubbard, Kaufmann, Leman, Nash, O'Kelly, Rogers, Seiler, Shipley. No: None. Absent: Culp.

Adjourn for lunch at 11:55. Return at 1:05 pm

CLOSED SESSION

OPEN SESSION

Compliance Committee Report (delayed until the morning of June 12)

Old Business

The following motion was discussed and voted on:

Motion #2009-16

Passed

Proposed by: Esterline/Hepner

I move that Rules and Regulations, paragraph 8.L.4 be changed as follows:

- a. Shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Board.
- b. Shall report to and be supervised by the President.
- c. Shall sign a statement at the bottom of the Webmaster's job description that the job description has been read, understood, and that it will be complied with. This signed job description will constitute a performance agreement for this position.

Motion #2009-20**Passed****Proposed by: Bishop/Shipley**

I move that Rules for Official Shows, paragraph M.1 and M.1.a be amended as follows:

1. Complaints regarding shows are to be made in writing and submitted, with required fees, to the Compliance Committee Chairperson, who will forward the complaint to the appropriate committee for the recommended course of action. Complaints meant to affect the outcome of a show or the eligibility of an animal to be shown must be filed within 7 days. All other complaints will be subject to Compliance Committee guidelines for filing complaints. The committee's recommendation will then be submitted to Board of Directors whose decisions, including possible penalties, shall be final.

a. Complaints pertaining to the ethics of judges or members shall be referred to the Compliance Committee.

Yes: Atkins, Bishop, Elkins, Esterline, Fonda, Hepner, Hubbard, Kaufmann, Leman, Nash, O'Kelly, Rogers, Seiler, Shipley. No: None. Absent: Culp.

Amend para M of R&R to limit JTC travel reimbursement to lowest 5 plus the chair

When this form of travel reimbursement was utilized in the past, it resulted in unfair selection of judges from less expensive regions, thus, some judges were never selected. The JTC does not support this motion.

Motion #2009-21**Failed****Proposed by: Shipley/Rogers**

I move that paragraph M of the Rules and Regulations, Travel Reimbursement, be amended to limit the JTC members eligible for travel reimbursement to the least expensive five committee members plus the Chair.

Yes: O'Kelly, Rogers, Shipley. No: Atkins, Bishop, Elkins, Esterline, Fonda, Hepner, Hubbard, Kaufmann, Leman, Nash, Seiler. Absent: Culp.

Procedures for determining presence of Conflicts of Interest by Directors including their removal from office

Director Esterline pointed out that currently there is no mechanism for the removal from office of a Director except for the very complicated procedure spelled out in the Bylaws. This proposal is in conflict with the Bylaws. Further discussion indicated that this is a complicated issue, but could be addressed by the following motion:

Motion #2009-22**Passed****Proposed by: O'Kelly/Shipley**

I move that paragraph 9.A of the Rules and Regulations be amended as follows:

A. As a service to its members, NPGA will provide a mechanism by which members can lodge complaints against other members for conduct or activity which allegedly violates the NPGA Code of Ethics, Code of Ethics for Judges, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, Rules for Official Shows, and/or the Director's Agreement. Complaints will not be accepted from non-members, nor will any allegations against non-members be accepted.

Yes: Atkins, Bishop, Esterline, Fonda, Hepner, Hubbard, Kaufmann, Leman, Nash, O'Kelly, Rogers, Seiler, Shipley. No: Elkins. Absent: Culp.

Reduce number of does from 20 to 12 required for Youth Shows only**Motion #2009-23****Passed****Proposed by: Bishop/O'Kelly**

I move that Show Rules, paragraph G.1, G.2, and G.3 be modified as follows:

1. In a combined Jr/Sr Doe or Buck Show, if the Senior Champion is named Grand Champion there must be at least 20/10 does/bucks in the show (12/10 for youth shows), 8/5 of these must be in the Senior Division (6/5 for youth shows). At least two senior age classes must be judged. The winning goat must be named Senior and Grand Champion or be recording the win by default as Reserve Grand.

2. In a combined Jr/Sr Doe or Buck Show, if the Junior Champion is named Grand Champion there must be at least 20/10 goats in the show (12/10 for youth shows), there is no requirement on the number of goats in the Senior Division. The goat earning the win must be named Junior and Grand Champion or be recording the win by default as Reserve Grand.

3. In a separately sanctioned Junior Doe Show or Senior Doe Show, there must be at least 20 does in the show (12 for youth shows). At least two age classes must be judged.

Yes: Atkins, Bishop, Elkins, Esterline, Fonda, Hepner, Hubbard, Kaufmann, Leman, Nash, O'Kelly, Rogers, Seiler, Shipley. No: None. Absent: Culp.

Prohibit exhibitors from displaying Champion ribbons as to be visible from show ring

The Board had no appetite for this motion.

Removal procedures for directors absent from Board meetings

The Board had no appetite for this motion.

Eliminate Grand Champion(s) of the day from participation in Master Champion Challenges

Motion #2009-24

Passed

Proposed by: O'Kelly/Bishop

I move that Rules for Official Shows, paragraph I be amended as follows:

- 1.a. The Master Champion Challenge class must be selected on the Sanction Application submitted to NPGA.
3. The Master Champion Challenge class shall consist of at least three Permanent Grand Champion does or bucks.
- 5.a. An animal receiving their final win towards PGCH status is not eligible to compete nor earn a Master

Champion Challenge win during that sanctioned show.

Yes: Bishop, Esterline, Hepner, Hubbard, Kaufmann, Leman, Nash, O'Kelly, Rogers, Shipley. No: Atkins, Elkins, Seiler.
Abstain: Fonda. Absent: Culp.

Close the Herdbook

The Board had no appetite for this motion.

ConEd operated by 2 judges instead of 1 non-judge

A replacement for the Con-Ed facilitator will be needed as this (June 2009) will be Director Nash's last Con-Ed. The Board discussed what types of activities should be included and who should receive credit for helping out in the Con-Ed program. Chairperson Overman will be contacted and asked to help make this happen.

Adjourned at 5:15 pm on June 11, 2009.

Reconvened on June 12 at 8:01 am.

CLOSED SESSION

OPEN SESSION

Remove all references to Provisional Judge Licensing and Examination from Rules & Regs and Show Rules, thus terminating the Provisional Judge program

The need for more judges has plagued the organization for years. The Provisional Judges' Program was developed to address that need. The intent was good and there were individual benefits such as gaining hands on experience, however the program lacked guidance and input from other committees.

Following a straw poll, the motion was withdrawn.

The JTC report has some suggestions pertaining to this issue. It was decided that the JTC should come up with a plan on how to educate and train individuals, and to create and implement a workable program for the future. This should be accomplished by June 2010.

Repeal 6/08 Board decision to add new color on Registration Application and Color Chart. Reinstate recommendation of original Breed Standard Report of 6/08.

This motion was withdrawn.

Change Breed Standard, Agouti Color Pattern, to provide for Black/Grey Agouti and Brown Agouti

Motion #2009-26

Failed

Proposed by: Fonda/Esterline

(Change to Breed Standard requires 2/3 vote)

I move that the Breed Standard be changed as follows:
Remove the sentence "All body colors are acceptable."
Change the Agouti Color Pattern to read:

Agouti - Body Colors: **Black/Grey Agouti** - Black and white hairs intermingled, producing an appearance ranging from highly grizzled to nearly solid. **Brown Agouti** - Brown and white hairs intermingled, producing an appearance ranging from highly grizzled to nearly solid. Required Markings: (a) muzzle, crown, eyes, and ears accented in white and may be intermingled with hairs the same color as the body; (b) hoofs, face, and forehead distinctly darker than, but of the same color as, the main body color; (c) All agoutis have solid stockings (black on the Black/Grey agouti, brown on the Brown Agouti). Stockings are defined as, from the knee down on the front legs and from the top of the hocks down on the rear legs. Optional Markings: (a) white patches or bellybands anywhere on the barrel between the point of elbow and stifle joint; (b) dorsal stripe darker than, but of the same color as, the main body color; (c) varying degrees of grizzling on areas of the body (such as the chest, shoulders, mane, and tail).

Agouti - Animals with body colors other than described in the Breed Standard shall be faulted as random markings.

Yes: Bishop, Esterline, Fonda, Hepner, Hubbard, O'Kelly, Rogers, Seiler, Shipley. No: Atkins, Elkins, Kaufmann, Leman, Nash. Absent: Culp.

Allow 1 GCH win with 6 Reserve Grand wins

Following a straw poll, this Motion was withdrawn.

Move Colorado from Region 6 to Region 7

Motion #2009-27 **Passed** **Proposed by: Kaufmann/Atkins**

I move that Colorado be moved to NPGA Region 7 from Region 6.

Yes: Atkins, Bishop, Elkins, Esterline, Fonda, Hepner, Hubbard, Kaufmann, Leman, Nash, O'Kelly, Rogers, Seiler, Shipley. No: None. Absent: Culp.

Add additional charge for not registering/transferring goats within 90 days

This motion was withdrawn, however it was suggested that the JTC should get the word out to the judges that they should be more aware of dates of transfers, etc..

Add to Publications Committee Chair's job description to make Board approved changes to official NPGA publications to keep them up to date

Motion #2009-28 **Passed** **Proposed by: Leman/Nash**

I move that the following addition be made to the Publications Committee Chair Job Description:

7. Make Board approved changes to official NPGA publications to ensure they stay up to date. Make sure all publication master copies have the Rules and Regulations, Rules for Official Shows, Bylaws, Breed Standard, Judging Scorecards, etc. updated.

Yes: Atkins, Bishop, Elkins, Esterline, Fonda, Hepner, Hubbard, Kaufmann, Leman, Nash, O'Kelly, Rogers, Seiler, Shipley. No: None. Absent: Culp.

Move language in Show Rules B.2.a to Rules and Regs 10.D.4 and Move Judge's dress code in Rules & Regs 10.D.4.d to Show Rules under B.2 were combined

Motion #2009-29 **Passed** **Proposed by: Leman/Atkins**

I move that the judge's dress code in the Rules and Regulations (paragraph 10.D.4.d) be moved to Rules for Official Shows, new paragraph B.2.g:

"Wear clothes that are neat, clean, and appropriate for judging. This is especially important at 4-H shows to set a good example for exhibitors and at fairs in order to compare well with the judges and exhibitors of other livestock breeds. No blue jeans, shorts, or open toed/heeled shoes. Shirts shall be long enough to always overlap pants while standing, bending, or kneeling. Judges shall not wear apparel that promotes individual farms while judging. Deviations from this are acceptable if agreed between the local show chair and judge, in writing, in advance."

I move that Rules for Official Shows, paragraph B.2.a be copied to the Rules and Regulations and replace the text currently in paragraph 10.D.4.d:

“No person shall judge any goat in which he/she has an ownership or part ownership or which is owned by a member of his/her immediate family or household.”

Yes: Atkins, Bishop, Elkins, Esterline, Fonda, Hepner, Hubbard, Kaufmann, Leman, Nash, O’Kelly, Rogers, Seiler, Shipley. No: None. Absent: Culp.

Add to Show Rules B.3.b that exhibitor shall not show a goat with the herdname of the judge’s immediate family members or household members

This motion was withdrawn, however it was suggested that Judges should inform the show chair of all household herdnames prior to the show.

Adjourn for lunch at 12:10.

Reconvene at 1:20 pm

How to determine that a yearling freshened doe is indeed freshened

The Board discussed what prompted this issue. It may be an issue when premiums are paid at some shows. The motion was withdrawn.

Advisory Question: Reduction of size of the Board of Directors

The Board discussed this issue based on two issues:

1. With the decline in membership, it might be prudent to consider reducing the Board’s size as well and 2. The move could save NPGA some travel reimbursement funds. Several sections of the Bylaws would need to be amended and would need to be voted on by the membership. Other cost saving measures were discussed. The Board’s feelings were not in support of the reduction at this time.

Report on the 2009 Convention

Currently there are approximately 150 goats entered . For the Champion Challenge, there are 16 bucks, 14 does, and 10 wethers to date.

The January 2010 Board Meeting will be held at the Days Inn, Baton Rouge, La on 1/23-24/2010.

Bids for the 2010 Convention (Region 4)

The bid was accepted for the fairgrounds in Hamilton, Ohio. Nearby airports include Indianapolis which is approximately 2hours away and Cincinnati or Dayton airports which are one hour away. The Courtyard by Marriott is the host hotel.

CLOSED SESSION

OPEN SESSION

Adjournment at 2:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle E. Fonda
NPGA Secretary 2009